

## Bobo Stenson - Origo (2009)

Written by bluesever

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01 *Alea lacta Est* (09:22) 02 *Clement* (06:26) 03 *Brief Excursion* (04:10) [play](#) 04 *Origo* (09:05) 05 *Giordaniesque* (03:22) 06 *Metamorphing* (19:25) 07 *Wee Farewell* (05:18)  
Personnel: Andreas Andersson (Sax (Alto), Sax (Baritone) Bobo Stenson (Piano) Mattias Hjorth (Double-Bass) Peter Nilsson (Drums)

This excellent trio's fourth release presents them at their best. The core group - Andreas Andersson on alto and baritone saxes, bassist Mattias Hjorth and Peter Nilsson on drums - always opts for patient, spontaneous improvisation that highlights slow development of form and structure upon fiery bursts of free playing. The collaboration with Stenson enriches both sides, and enables this ad-hoc quartet to delve into more elaborate pieces. Some tunes are much more minimalist—almost abstract, yet still intense. Stenson is much more adventurous than on his ECM releases, while retaining his elegant touch and sophisticated articulation. *Origo* is a multi-layered session that features the quartet's various facets. Spare and suggestive on *Clement*, Stenson delivers ballad-like lines, but Plunge Trio's sensitive interplay only touches them, opting for a more open texture. The title track is slow and minimalist, with careful, balanced and emphatic interplay based on intense listening. *Metamorphing*, at almost 20 minutes, moves through a wide and introspective—almost meditative—spectrum of textures and moods, with quiet intensity and delicate thematic elaboration. The closing *Wee Farewell* is another spare, contemplative piece that sums up this impressive musical meeting in a majestic manner. The patient interplay implies moods and themes in an imaginative game of nuanced and suggestive playing. This release is a wonderful example of contemporary Scandinavian jazz. Plunge Trio with Bobo Stenson extends the Nordic tradition of cool, personal expression, challenging conventional jazz with a unique and creative improvisational method. *Origo* asks for an attentive listening, but each listening finds new and captivating nuances that testify to its sheer beauty. ---Eyal Hareuveni, [allaboutjazz.com](http://allaboutjazz.com)

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"Origo" documents the continued collaboration between Plunge and piano great Bobo Stenson, it is Plunge's fourth album and their second together with Stenson. The rewarding collaboration between the trio and Stenson began in the fall of 2002, and has so far resulted in numerous tours of Sweden, several national and European radio broadcasts and a CD, "Plunge with Bobo Stenson", which was released in 2005.

The music on "Origo" is improvised and based on intense listening, spontaneous composition and a far reaching sense of form, and it is clear how the quartet's music has evolved over the years – the pieces are longer, more elaborate and more minimalistic. The new record features a wide spectrum of sounds, textures and moods – from intense and suggestive grooves to beautiful ballads and sparse and sensitive interplay, and is a good example of contemporary, Scandinavian jazz – music that's an extension of the strong Nordic tradition of creative, personal and challenging jazz, a tradition that Bobo Stenson has been a big and important part of since the early 60's. ---Kopasetic Productions

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